

Listing of the Claims:

No amendments to the claims have been made by this paper, however a listing of the claims has been provided for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Previously Presented) A printing system for printing a document, said printing system comprising:

a job preparation station, including a processor, a memory, and a user interface, said job preparation station configured at least to:

generate flags stored in the memory for each of a plurality of pages in a document to be printed, the flags being generated in response to first inputs received from the user interface, the first inputs specifying that selected pages in the document include tabs, the flags indicating that the selected pages in the document contain the tabs,

store specified characters for each of the selected pages to be rendered on the tabs, the specified characters for each of the selected pages being stored in the memory in a non-image format and being stored in response to second inputs received from the user interface, and

store, on a plurality-of-page basis, global tab stock data in the memory identifying the tab stock to be used for printing all of the selected pages, the global tab stock data being stored in response to a third input received from the user interface; and

a print output module that receives the flags, specified characters to be rendered on said tabs, and the global tab stock data from the job preparation station and prints the specified characters on the tabs of the specified pages of the identified tab stock.

2. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 1 wherein each of the flags and the specified characters for each of the selected pages are stored as objects.

3. (Original) The printing system of claim 2 wherein said objects are page objects.

4. (Original) The printing system of claim 3 wherein said objects comprise PDF objects.

5. (Original) The printing system of claim 1 wherein a tab sheet is created as an additional page to the document.

6. (Previously Presented) A printing system for printing a document, said printing system comprising:

a job preparation station, including a processor and a memory, said job preparation station generating a flag stored in the memory indicating that a selected page in a document to be printed includes a tab;

a user interface including an input device for a user to specify the selected page and tab label information to be rendered on said tab and to allow the user to select a specific tab stock to be used for all pages having tabs in the document, the tab label information being entered independent of the ~~tab~~ specific tab stock, and the selected specific tab stock being stored in the memory on a plurality-of-page basis; and

a print output module that receives the flag and the tab label information to be rendered on said tab and prints said tab label information on said tab of the selected page of the specific tab stock,

wherein the specified characters for each of the selected pages are stored in a non-image format.

7. (Previously Presented) The printing system of claim 6 wherein the flag and the tab label information are stored as objects.

8. (Original) The printing system of claim 7 wherein said objects are page objects.

9. (Original) The printing system of claim 8 wherein said objects comprise PDF objects.

10. (Original) The printing system of claim 6 wherein a tab sheet is created as an additional page to the document.

11. (Previously Presented) A method of printing a document on a printing system including a print output module, said method comprising:

generating flags stored in a first memory region for each of a plurality of pages in a document to be printed, the flags indicating that selected pages in a document to be printed include tabs;

storing specified characters for each of the selected pages to be rendered on the tabs, the specified characters for each of the selected pages being stored in a second memory region in a non-image format; and

storing, on a plurality-of-page basis in a third memory region, global tab stock data identifying tab stock to be used for printing all of the selected pages; and

printing the specified characters on the tabs of the selected pages of the specified tab stock, based at least upon the flags, the specified characters for each of the selected pages, and the stored global tab stock data.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein each of the flags and the specified characters for each of the selected pages are stored as objects.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein each of the flags and the specified characters for each of the selected pages are stored as page objects.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein each of the flags and the specified characters for each of the selected pages are stored as PDF objects.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising creating a tab sheet as an additional page to the document.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for printing a document on a printing system including a print output module, said method comprising:

generating a flag indicating that a selected page in a document to be printed contains a tab;

receiving tab label information to be rendered on said tab;

receiving information specifying a specific tab stock to be used for all pages having tabs in the document, the tab label information being received independent of the specific tab stock, and the selected specific tab stock being stored in the memory on a plurality-of-page basis;

printing the tab label information on the tab of the selected page of the specific tab stock, based at least upon the flag, the tab label information, and information specifying the specific tab stock,

wherein the specified characters for each of the selected pages are stored in a memory in a non-image format.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 further comprising storing the flag and tab information as objects.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said step of storing comprises storing objects are page objects.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein said step of storing objects as page objects comprises storing objects as PDF objects.